

Appl. No. 10/082,361
Amdt. Dated April 16, 2004
Reply to Office Action of February 9, 2004

Attorney Docket No. 81752.0127
Customer No. 26021

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This Application has been allowed based on claims 1-42. By this Amendment, claims 2, 4-9, 19, 21-27, 41 and 42 are being cancelled.

37 C.F.R. § 1.312 provides for amendment after the issuance of a Notice of Allowance. MPEP 714.16 notes that the Examiner has authority to enter amendments submitted after the Notice of Allowance which embody merely the correction of formal matters in the specification or drawings, or formal matters in a claim without changing the scope thereof, or the cancellation of claims from the application. This paper cancels certain of the claims from the allowed Application. Upon cancellation of such claims, claims 1, 3, 10-18, 20 and 28-40 will remain in the Application. The Application will proceed to issuance based on such claims.

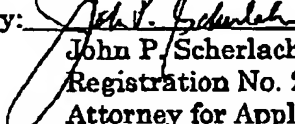
Therefore, this Amendment which merely cancels claims is within the authority of the Examiner, and approval by the Examiner is respectfully requested.

If for any reason this Amendment cannot be approved by the Examiner, it is requested that the undersigned be telephoned immediately.

If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-1314.

Respectfully submitted,
HOGAN & HARTSON L.L.P.

Date: April 16, 2004

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